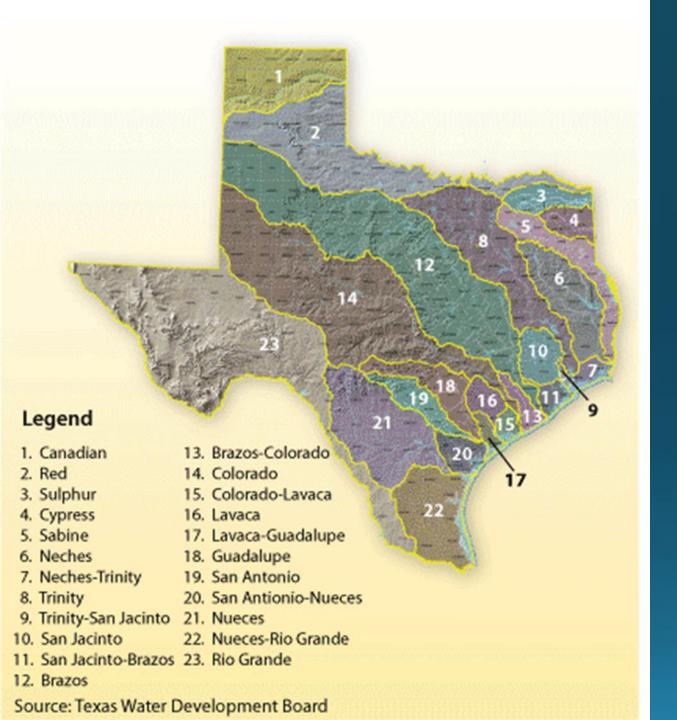
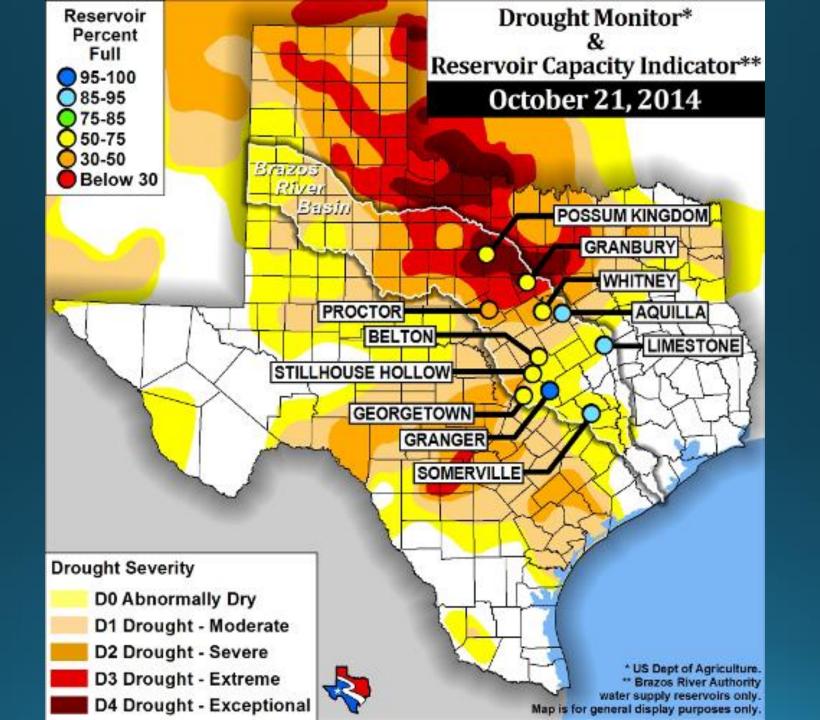
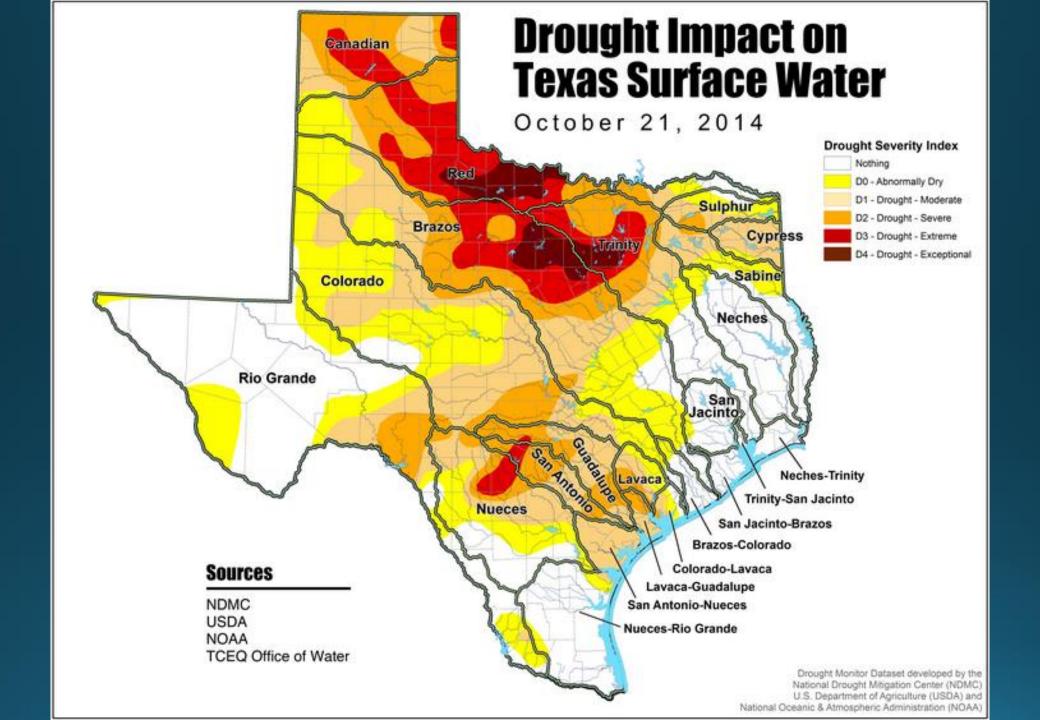
Dr. Thom Hardy

The Meadows Center for Water and Environment

Status of Aquatic Habitat in Texas







Brazos River Basin - 2013

Drought:

- Ninety-nine percent of the watershed at or above the senior call location is in at least moderate drought as classified by the National Drought Mitigation Center.
- 10. Streamflows at U. S. Geological Survey gaging stations 08116650, near Rosharon, and 08114000, at Richmond, are below the 33rd percentile for the period of record. The period of record for the Rosharon gage is April 1967 to present and the period of record for the Richmond gage is 1903 to present.

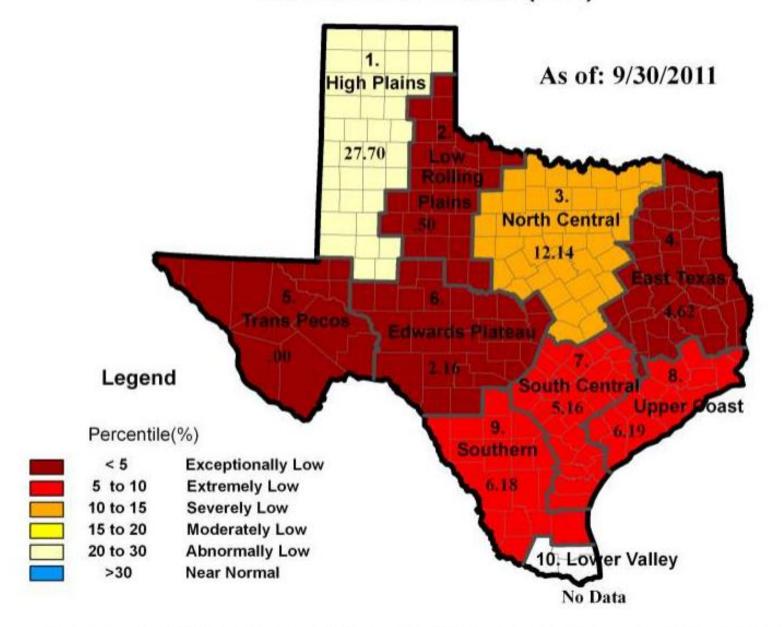
191,000 miles of rivers and streams in Texas provide habitat for 255 species of fishes

With over 150 species of native freshwater fishes, Texas ranks among the most biologically diverse states

•Texas ranks 2nd nationally in terms of angler days and the amount of money spent on fishing

Sportsmen spend \$6.6 billion per year in Texas

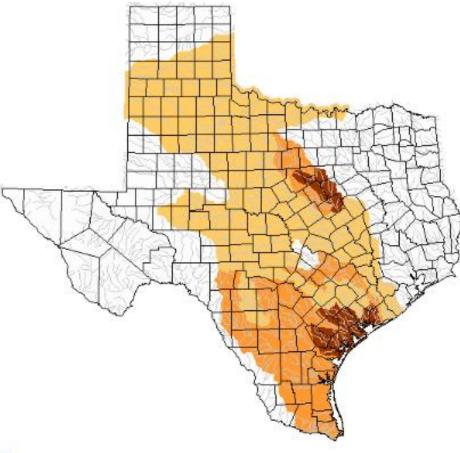
Streamflow Index (SFI)



Map of below normal 7-day average streamflow compared to historical streamflow for the day of year (Texas)



Sunday, October 26, 2014





Click map to obtain more detailed drought information for the state

Explanation - Percentile classes					
Low	<=5	6-9	10-24	In sufficient data	
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	for a hydrologic region	

Sunday, October 26, 2014 **■USGS**

7 day

Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map

● List of all stations ○ Single station ○ Nearest stations

Explanation - Percentile classes						
New low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Not ranked		
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal			

■USGS

Sunday, October 26, 2014

14 day

Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map

List of all stations Single station Nearest stations

Explanation - Percentile classes					
New low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Not ranked	
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal		

Sunday, October 26, 2014

28 day

■USGS

Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map O List of all stations Single station Nearest stations

Explanation - Percentile classes						
• • • O						
New low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Not ranked		
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	Not ranked		

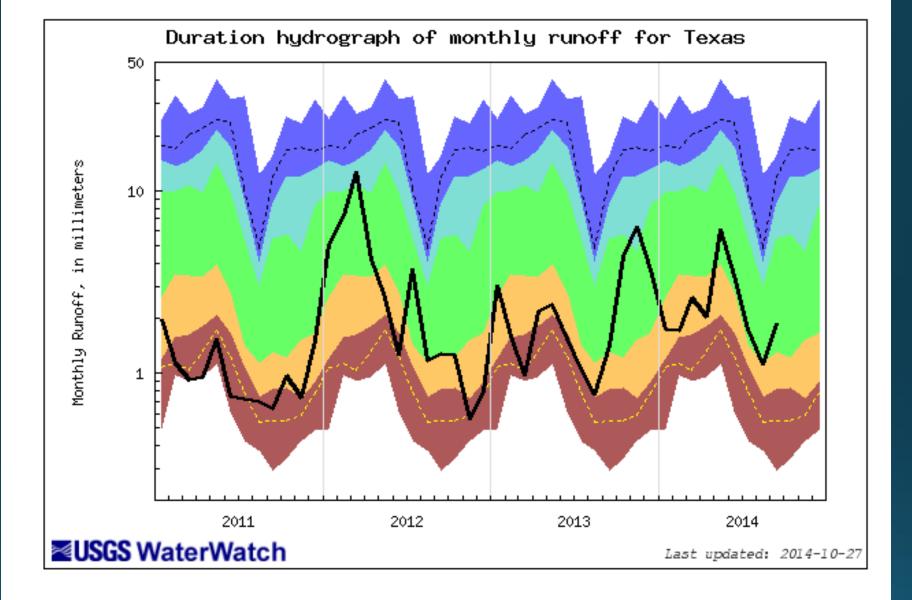
Sunday, October 26, 2014

Monthly

⊠USGS

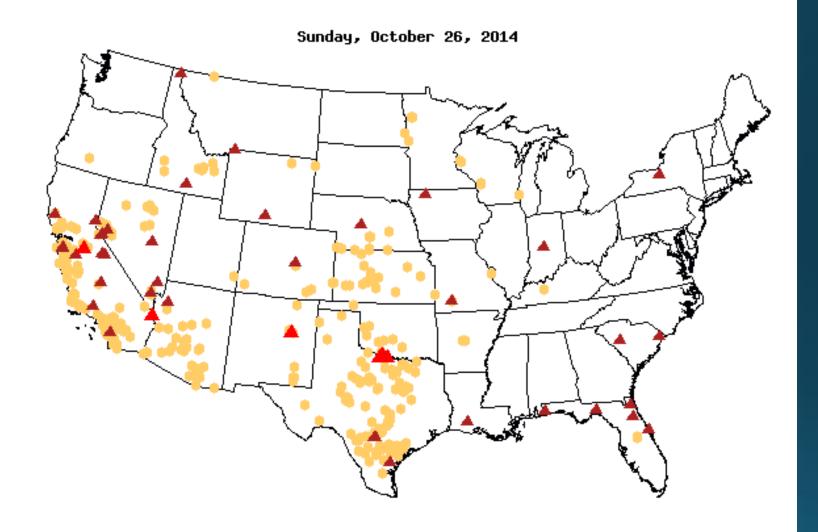
Choose a data retrieval option and select a location on the map O List of all stations Single station Nearest stations

Explanation - Percentile classes					
• • • •					
New low	<=5	6-9	10-24	Not ranked	
Extreme hydrologic drought	Severe hydrologic drought	Moderate hydrologic drought	Below normal	Not ranked	



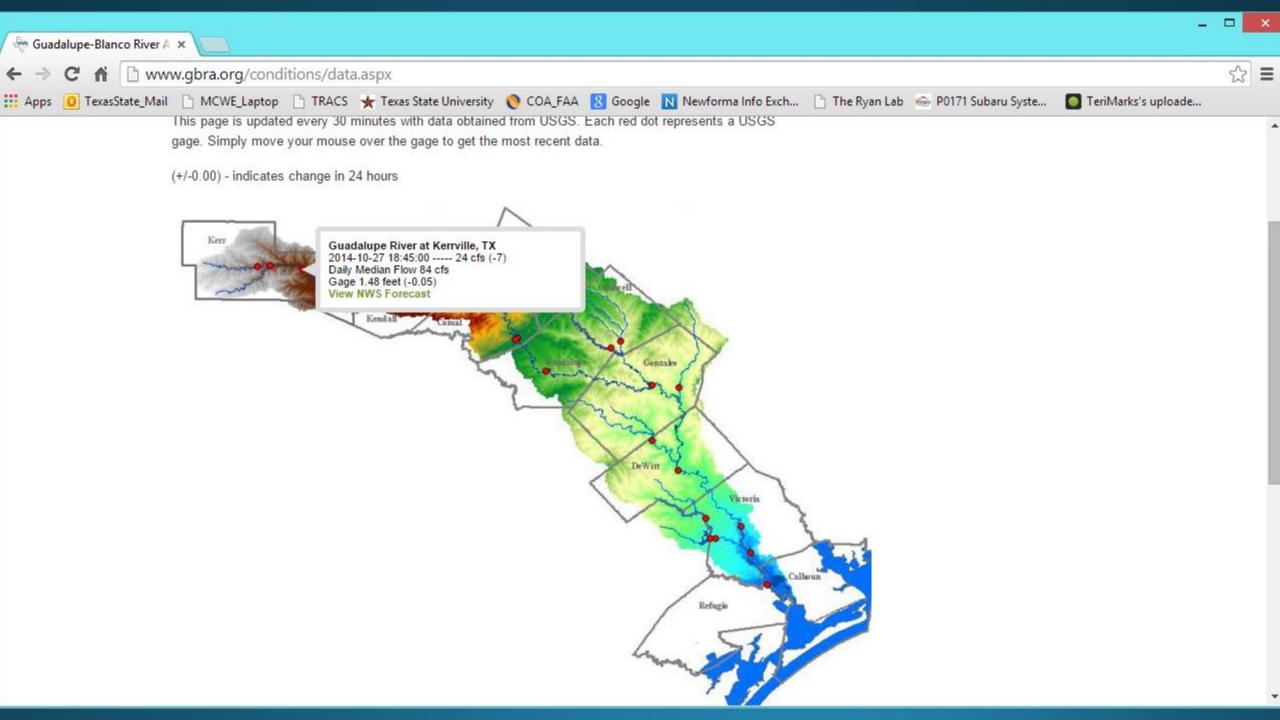
Explanation - Percentile classes							
lowest- 10th percentile	5	10-24	25-75	76-90	95	90th percentile -highest	Runoff
Much below Normal Be		Below normal	Normal	Above normal	Much above normal		

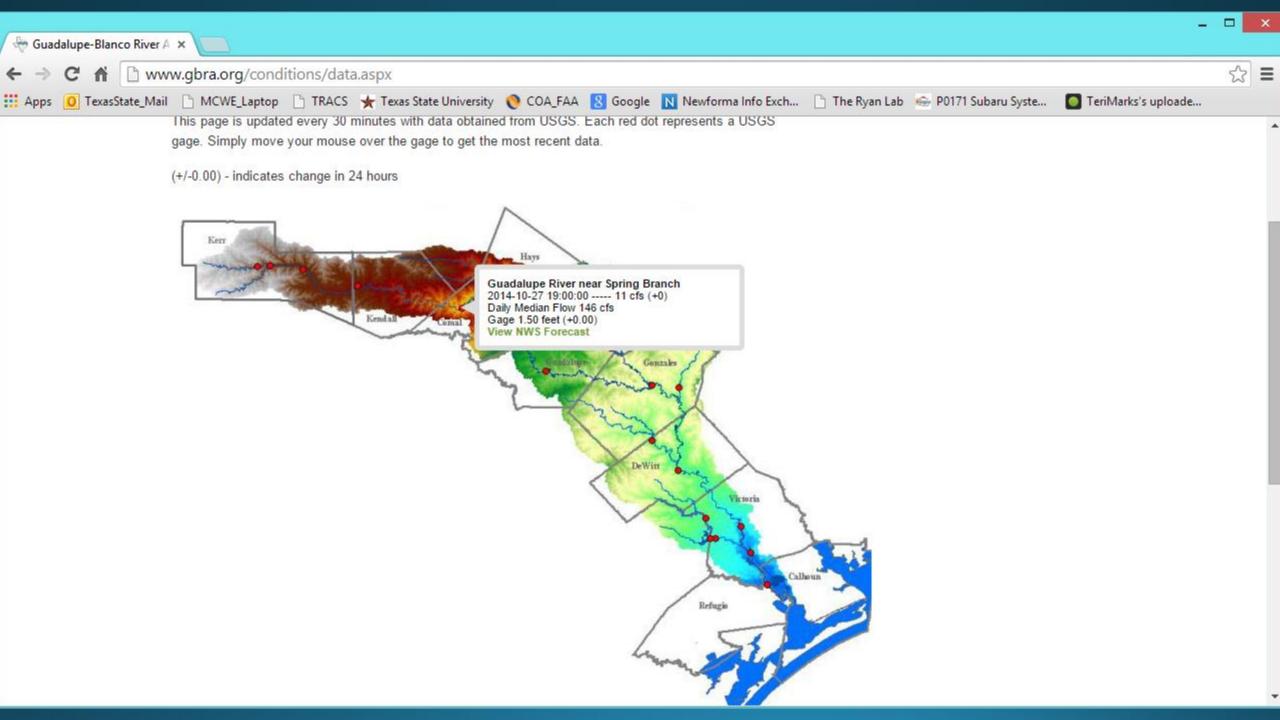
Map of Record Low 7-day Streamflow

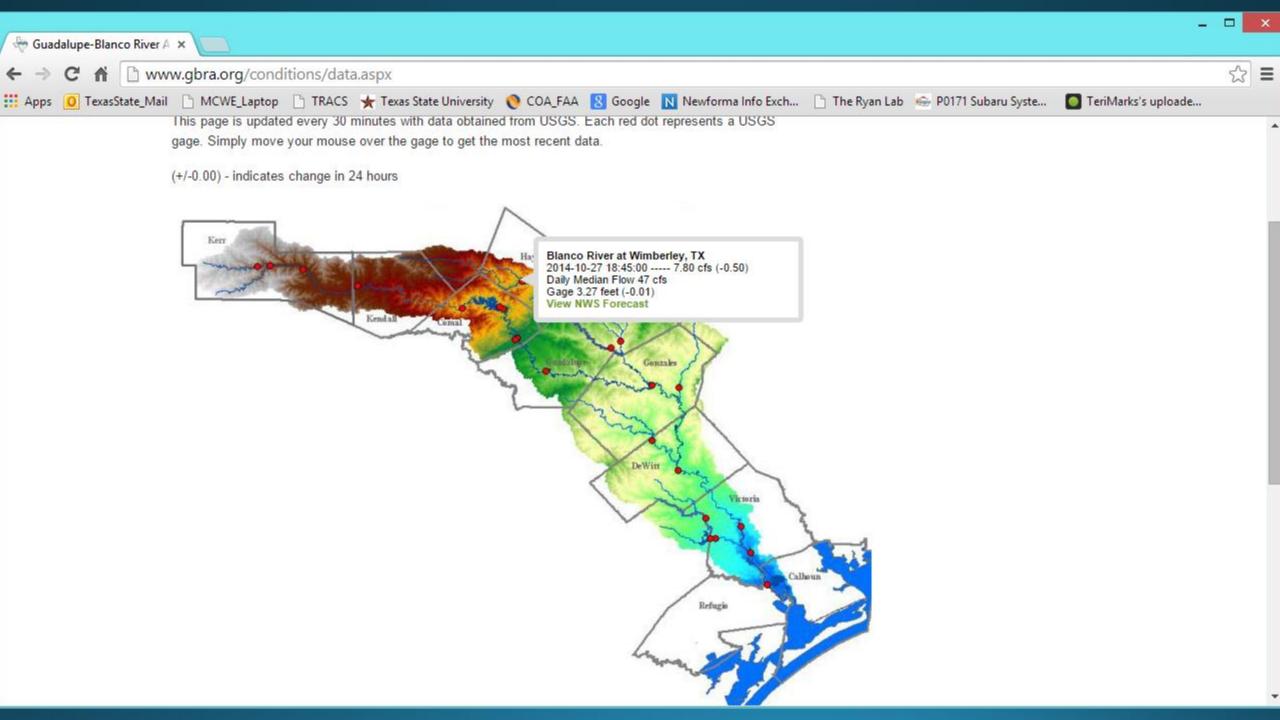


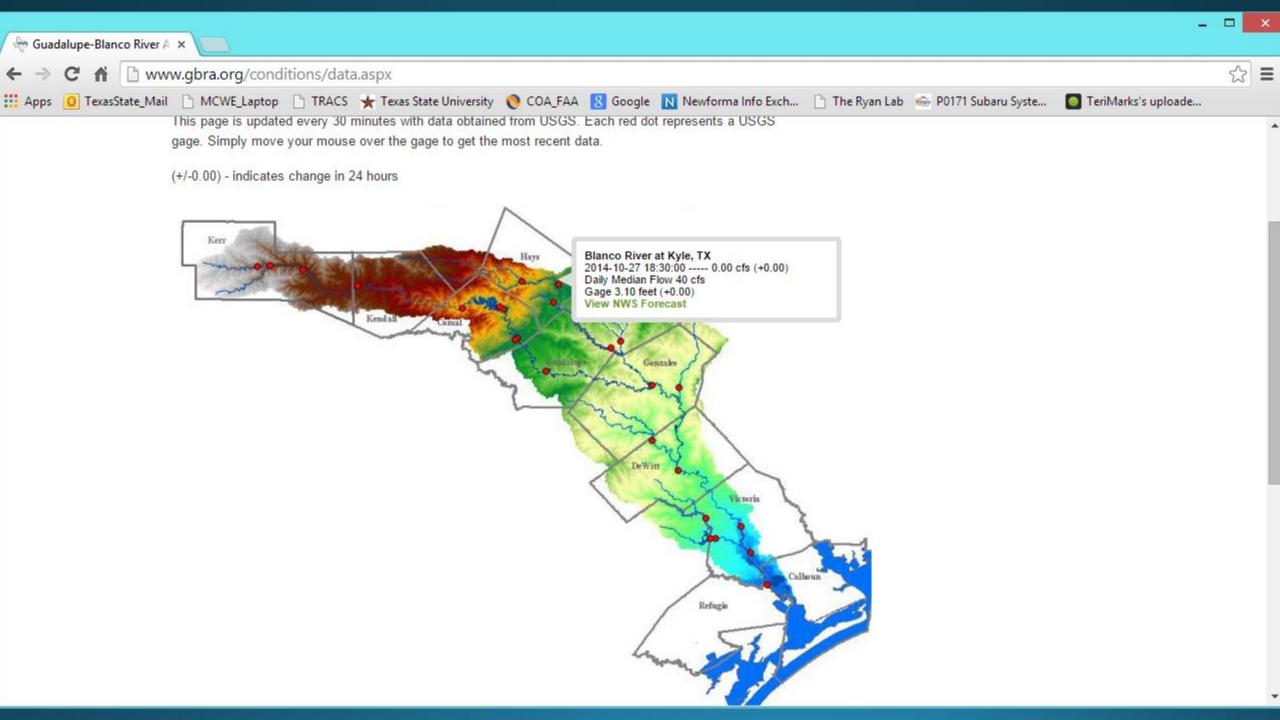
Explanation

- A Record low flow with more than 30 years data
- A Record low flow with less than 30 years data
- Zero flow sites



















Summary

- Many systems are under extreme stress that have potentially long term ecological implications to aquatic fauna (fish and mussels)
- Physical structure is not likely to be impacted and recover under increased flows
- Recovery of some species may not occur (local extirpations)
- Recovery of some species may occur relatively rapidly depending on refuge populations and life history strategies pre-adapted to drought conditions
- High potential for major shifts in aquatic community structure and diversity including increased distribution and abundance of introduced species

